

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH AND      September 20, 2016  
SUPERVISOR SHEILA KUEHL

On October 23, 2015, the Aliso Canyon gas storage facility experienced a massive leak of natural gas that continued for 16 weeks, and which affected the nearby communities, to include Porter Ranch. Many residents reported experiencing health effects and subsequently relocated to alternative housing, costs for which were later reimbursed by Southern California Gas Company (SCG). On February 11, 2016, SCG reported that the leak had been stopped. However, residents who returned to the Porter Ranch community continued to experience symptoms similar to what they experienced during the gas leak, and reported their symptoms to various agencies, including the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (DPH).

Along with DPH, the California Air Resources Board, Southern California Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD), California Department of Public Health, Cal/EPA's Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment, as well as the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, it was determined that a health study that would assess and identify the long term health impacts to the residents exposed to the massive gas leak was appropriate and necessary, for two primary reasons: (1) a gas leak of this magnitude is unprecedented, both in the amount of gas released and the length of time that people were exposed to the released chemicals; and (2) in spite of the cessation of the gas leak, residents and community members continue to report negative health effects similar to what they experienced during the gas leak.

In January 2016, SCAQMD's Hearing Board issued an order requiring SCG to fund the Porter Ranch health study, and SCG committed to funding this health study as required by SCAQMD's order. Since that time, SCG has retracted from their initial commitment to fund this important health study, and in July 2016, SCAQMD sued SCG to enforce the order.

- M O R E -

MOTION

RIDLEY-THOMAS \_\_\_\_\_

KUEHL \_\_\_\_\_

KNABE \_\_\_\_\_

ANTONOVICH \_\_\_\_\_

SOLIS \_\_\_\_\_

**I, THEREFORE, MOVE** that the Board of Supervisors:

Direct the interim Director of the Department of Public Health to work with SCAQMD with the objective of developing a health study that is to be conducted by an independent panel of scientific experts, to analyze the Aliso Canyon gas leak and long term health impacts, and to report back in 21 days on the actions the County can take to move the health study forward.

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MDA:fls

S:Motions/Motions2016/Aliso Canyon Health Study